

Serial No.: 10/733,060

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An initiator assembly ~~for in combination with an inflator device, the inflator device comprising a wall with a wall opening extending therethrough, and the initiator assembly comprising:~~

an initiator including an initiator cup at least in part defining a storage chamber containing at least one reactive charge and the initiator also including at least one electrical connector in reaction initiating communication with the at least one reactive charge;

a raised rim on an outer surface of the initiator cup, the raised rim including a rim side disposed toward an end of the initiator opposite the at least one electrical connector;

an initiator sleeve including a centrally disposed opening disposed around the outer surface of the initiator cup and the initiator sleeve including an initiator sleeve first end abutting the rim side of the raised rim; and

an initiator retainer element connected to the initiator, the initiator retainer element including at least two initiator retainer arms having latch tabs, wherein the latch tabs of the at least two initiator retainer arms are snap-locked to an initiator sleeve second end of the initiator sleeve opposite the initiator sleeve first end to connect the initiator retainer element to the initiator; and

a connector socket;

wherein the initiator retainer element is adapted to be disposed on a first side of ~~a the~~ wall of the inflator device and the connector socket is adapted to be disposed on a second side of the wall opposite the first side, and the initiator assembly

Serial No.: 10/733,060

~~is adapted to join with the inflator device by a snap-lock connection the initiator retainer element and the connector socket are snap-locked together through the wall opening in the inflator device.~~

2. (Canceled)

3. (Previously Presented) The initiator assembly of claim 1, additionally comprising at least two retaining arms extending from at least one of the initiator retainer element and the connector socket, each of the at least two retaining arms including a latch tab;

wherein the at least two retaining arms are adapted to extend through the opening in the inflator device to snap-lock the initiator retainer element and the connector socket together.

Claims 4 and 5 (Canceled)

6. (Currently Amended) The initiator assembly of claim [[5]]
1 wherein the initiator sleeve comprises a collar flange.

Serial No.: 10/733,060

7. (Previously Presented) The initiator assembly of claim 6 additionally comprising:

at least two collar flange apertures in the collar flange; and
a recess formed in the initiator retainer element;

wherein each of the at least two initiator retainer arms extends into one of the at least two collar flange apertures and at least a portion of the initiator sleeve collar flange is disposed in the initiator retainer element recess.

8. (Currently Amended) The initiator assembly of claim [[4]]
1 wherein the raised rim is a raised circumferential ring.

9. (Original) The initiator assembly of claim 3 wherein the at least two retaining arms extend from the initiator retainer element.

10. (Original) The initiator assembly of claim 9 wherein the connector socket includes a connector socket opening and at least one shoulder adjacent the connector socket opening and the latch tabs of the at least two retaining arms are adapted to engage the at least one shoulder to snap-lock the initiator retainer element and the connector socket together.

Serial No.: 10/733,060

11. (Previously Presented) An initiator assembly for an inflator device, comprising:

an initiator including an initiator cup at least in part defining a storage chamber containing at least one reactive charge and the initiator also including at least one electrical connector in reaction initiating communication with the at least one reactive charge;

an initiator retainer element connected to the initiator;

a connector socket; and

at least two retaining arms extending from the connector socket, each of the at least two retaining arms including a latch tab.

wherein the initiator retainer element is adapted to be disposed on a first side of a wall of the inflator device and the connector socket is adapted to be disposed on a second side of the wall opposite the first side, and the at least two retaining arms are adapted to extend through an opening in the inflator device to snap-lock the initiator retainer element and the connector socket together to join with the inflator device by a snap-lock connection.

12. (Original) The initiator assembly of claim 1 wherein the initiator retainer element and the connector socket are formed of a plastic material.

Serial No.: 10/733,060

13. (Currently Amended) An initiator assembly for in combination with an inflator device, the inflator device comprising a wall with a wall opening extending therethrough, and the initiator assembly comprising:

an initiator including an initiator cup at least in part defining a storage chamber containing at least one reactive charge and the initiator also including at least one electrical connector in reaction initiating communication with the at least one reactive charge;

an initiator retainer element connected to the initiator, the initiator retainer element including two retaining arms and each of the two retaining arms including a latch tab; and

a connector socket including a connector socket opening and at least one shoulder adjacent the connector socket opening;

wherein the initiator retainer element is disposed on an opposite side of the wall from the connector socket and the retaining arms of the initiator retainer element are adapted to extend through a the wall opening of the inflator device and the connector socket opening, and the latch tab of each retaining arm is adapted to snap-lock to a surface of the connector socket to connect the initiator assembly to the inflator device wall, wherein the latch tabs of the at least two retaining arms are adapted to engage the at least one shoulder to snap-lock the initiator retainer element and the connector socket together.

14. (Original) The initiator assembly of claim 13 additionally comprising:

a raised rim on an outer surface of the initiator cup, the raised rim including a rim side disposed toward an end of the initiator opposite the at least one electrical connector; and

Serial No.: 10/733,060

at least two initiator retainer arms having latch tabs disposed on the initiator retainer element;

wherein the latch tabs of the at least two initiator retainer arms are snap-locked to the rim side to connect the initiator retainer element to the initiator.

15. (Previously Presented) An initiator assembly for an inflator device having a wall with an opening, the initiator assembly comprising:

an initiator including an initiator cup at least in part defining a storage chamber containing at least one reactive charge and the initiator also including at least one electrical connector in reaction initiating communication with the at least one reactive charge;

a raised rim on an outer surface of the initiator cup, the raised rim including a rim side disposed toward an end of the initiator opposite the at least one electrical connector

an initiator retainer element connected to the initiator, the initiator retainer element including two retaining arms and two initiator retainer arms and each of the two retaining arms and the two initiator retainer arms including a latch tab;

a connector socket including a connector socket opening; and

an initiator sleeve including a centrally disposed opening disposed around the outer surface of the initiator cup and the initiator sleeve including an initiator sleeve first end abutting the rim side of the raised rim;

wherein the latch tabs of the at least two initiator retainer arms are snap-locked to an initiator sleeve second end of the initiator sleeve opposite the initiator sleeve first end to connect the initiator retainer element to the initiator and the retaining arms of the initiator retainer element extend through the wall opening of the inflator device and the connector socket opening, and the latch tab of each retaining

Serial No.: 10/733,060

arm snap-lock to a surface of the connector socket to connect the initiator assembly to the inflator device wall.

16. (Original) The initiator assembly of claim 15 wherein the initiator sleeve comprises a collar flange.

17. (Previously Presented) The initiator assembly of claim 16 additionally comprising:

at least two collar flange apertures formed in the collar flange; and
a recess formed in the initiator retainer element;

wherein each of the at least two initiator retainer arms extends into one of the at least two collar flange apertures and at least a portion of the initiator sleeve collar flange is disposed in the initiator retainer element recess.

18. (Original) The initiator assembly of claim 14 wherein the raised rim is a raised circumferential ring.

19. (Canceled)

20. (Original) The initiator assembly of claim 13 wherein the initiator retainer element and the connector socket are formed of a plastic material.

Serial No.: 10/733,060

21. (Currently Amended) An initiator assembly comprising:
an initiator including an initiator cup at least in part defining a storage chamber containing at least one reactive charge and the initiator also including at least one electrical connector in reaction initiating communication with the at least one reactive charge;

an initiator retainer element connected to the initiator;

a connector socket including a connector socket opening;

at least one of the initiator retainer element or the connector socket including at least two retaining arms extending therefrom, each of the at least two retaining arms including a latch tab;

an adapter plate including an adapter plate opening;

the initiator retainer element disposed on a first side of the adapter plate and the connector socket disposed on a second side of the adapter plate opposite the first side;

wherein the initiator retainer element and the connector socket are formed of a plastic material and the at least two retaining arms extend from the at least one of the initiator retainer element or the connector socket through the adapter plate opening and the latch tabs of the retaining arms are snap-locked to a surface of an other of the initiator retainer element or the connector socket to connect the initiator retainer element, the adapter plate, and the connector socket together.

Serial No.: 10/733,060

22. (Original) The initiator assembly of claim 21 additionally comprising:

a raised rim on an outer surface of the initiator cup, the raised rim including a rim side disposed toward an end of the initiator opposite the at least one electrical connector; and

at least two initiator retainer arms having latch tabs disposed on the initiator retainer element;

wherein the latch tabs of the at least two initiator retainer arms are snap-locked to the rim side to connect the initiator retainer element to the initiator.

23. (Original) The initiator assembly of claim 22 additionally comprising an initiator sleeve including a centrally disposed opening disposed around the outer surface of the initiator cup and the initiator sleeve including an initiator sleeve first end abutting the rim side of the raised rim;

wherein the latch tabs of the at least two initiator retainer arms are snap-locked to an initiator sleeve second end of the initiator sleeve opposite the initiator sleeve first end to connect the initiator retainer element to the initiator.

24. (Original) The initiator assembly of claim 23 wherein the initiator sleeve comprises a collar flange.

Serial No.: 10/733,060

25. (Original) The initiator assembly of claim 24 additionally comprising:

at least two collar flange apertures formed in the collar flange; and
a recess formed in the initiator retainer element;

wherein each of the at least two initiator retainer arms extends into one of the at least two collar flange apertures and at least a portion of the initiator sleeve collar flange is disposed in the initiator retainer element recess.

26. (Original) The initiator assembly of claim 22 wherein the raised rim is a raised circumferential ring.

27. (Original) The initiator assembly of claim 21 wherein the connector socket includes a connector socket opening and at least one shoulder adjacent the connector socket opening and the latch tabs of the at least two retaining arms are adapted to engage the at least one shoulder to snap-lock the initiator retainer element and the connector socket together.

28. (Canceled)

29. (New) The initiator assembly of claim 1, wherein the initiator retainer element and the connector socket are adapted to snap-lock together through an opening in the inflator device.